29.67 million person years during the Tenth Plan period. With suitable programmes and policy changes, the same 8 per cent growth rate can generate an additional 19.32 million person years of employment opportunities during the Tenth Plan period.

Schemes for Lakshadweep and Port Blair

†2438. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the pitiable condition of the people living nearby sea regions of Lakshadweep and Port Blair;

(b) if so, the details of the survey conducted by Government in this regard; and

(c) the schemes formulated and implemented by Government to raise the standard of living of people of the said area and to increase employment opportunities for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) The condition of the people living in nearby sea region of Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands (including Port Blair) in general compares favourably to the condition of the people in the rest of the country. For example, the per capita income of Andaman & Nicobar Islands in 1998-99 was 142.05% of the average All-India per capita income. Accordingly, no specific survey has been carried out in this regard. Major schemes formulated to raise the standard of living and to incrase employment opportunities, including for those who live in such areas, include Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Swarnjayanti Gram Sarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), etc. which aim at generating employment opportunities and raising levels of human development at the village level, in addition to welfare schemes like National Social Assistance Programme, Annapurna and Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.